

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director, ORE

DATE: 13 Sep 48

FROM : Chief, Scientific Branch, ORE

SUBJECT: Activity Report for Week ending 10 Sep.

Weekly Staff Meeting, held on 10 Sep

[] commented on the enthusiastic cooperation shown by the [] (which he visited last week) concerning problems related to the collection of scientific information.

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[] discussed briefly the program of the American Assn. for the Advancement of Science and of the new Institute for Biological Sciences. Both organizations will hold conferences in Washington from 11 to 16 Sep; members of the Branch plan to attend.

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[] suggested that the value of interviewing scientists returning from abroad would be enhanced if the time lag between the date of their arrival in this country and the date of the interview were shortened. This belief has also been expressed by the interviewees.

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Branch Notes

(1) [] of the Scientific Branch, and Dr. Sanford, Librarian of the Brookhaven Laboratories, Long Island, discussed the problem of pooling all translations of Russian scientific and technical publications made by government, university, and industrial research center personnel so that (a) completed translations may be made more generally available, and (b) notification of translations in progress can be circulated to reduce duplication. Such a program is being considered by the Interdepartmental Scientific Committee.

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Whether industry will join the proposed pool is at present problematical as industry, generally speaking, is reluctant to divulge its "trade secrets". It was suggested at the meeting that the coordination of translations might become the function of the National Science Foundation or of the Special Libraries Assn. Whether or not the broad ideal of governmental, academic, and industrial collaboration is achieved, collaboration among the governmental agencies is felt to be a vital step towards improving the procedures now affecting foreign translations.

(2) The third symposium on Combustion and Flame and Explosion Phenomena, held at the University of Wisconsin, 7 to 11 Sep, was

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attended throughout the week by [redacted] Approximately 400
chemists, physicists, and engineers, including world famous scientists
from foreign countries, were present at this important conference. A
list of those from abroad is on file in the Branch.

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(3) As a follow-up to the GNE presentation of [redacted]
[redacted] the Branch has initiated a meeting between
him and Major C. Chan of FDB so that [redacted] can assist this agency in
facilitating the procurement of Russian scientific and technical
publications.

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(4) [redacted] attended the meetings of the RDB Panels on
Acoustics and on Basic Research in Electronics. At the request of
[redacted] and on behalf of both CIA and the other IAC agencies, he interviewed
[redacted]

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/s/ [redacted]

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